

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A shell casing for enclosing a case of a tape measure comprising:  
2                 a first concave shell with malleable interior sections;  
3                 a second concave shell with malleable interior sections; and  
4                 adjustable connection means for connecting said first concave shell to said  
5                 second concave shell thereby enclosing the case of the tape measure.

1           2.     The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 1 further  
2                 comprising:  
3                 a blade connected to at least one of said concave shells.

1           3.     The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 1 further  
2                 comprising:  
3                 a retractable blade molded into at least one of said concave shells wherein said  
4                 retractable blade is molded flush within said concave shell.

1           4.     The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 2 further  
2                 comprising:  
3                 a lead pencil connected to at least one of said concave shells.

1           5.     The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 2 further  
2                 comprising:  
3                 a retractable lead pencil molded into at least one of said concave shells wherein  
4                 said retractable lead pencil is molded flush within said concave shell.

- 1 6. A combination tool comprising:  
2 a tape measure in a case; and  
3 a retractable cutting blade located inside said case and arranged to make cuts  
4 corresponding to measurement increments arranged on said tape measure.
- 1 7. A combination tool comprising:  
2 a tape measure in a case; and  
3 a retractable pencil molded inside said case in a flush manner and arranged to  
4 make pencil marks corresponding to measurement increments arranged on said tape  
5 measure, said tape measure including a nail hole at its exposed end.
- 1 8. The combination tool of Claim 6 wherein:  
2 said tape measure includes a nail hole at its exposed end.
- 1 9. The combination tool of Claim 7 wherein:  
2 said retractable pencil is adapted to use interchangeable leads or limestone.
- 1 10. The combination tool of Claim 7 wherein:  
2 said retractable lead pencil is a mechanical lead pencil molded into said case in a  
3 flush manner.
- 1 11. The combination tool of Claim 7 further comprising:  
2 a clear indicator window located proximate to said tape measure said indicator  
3 window including an index line located in line with said measurement increments.
- 1 12. A method of making precise measured cuts on objects comprising the steps of:  
2 measuring a distance using a combination tool comprising a tape measure in a  
3 case;

cutting the object at said measured distance by extending a retractable blade located inside said case wherein said blade is arranged to make cuts corresponding to measurement increments arranged on said tape measure.

13. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the steps of:  
positioning a clear window above said measurement increments to view and line up said measurement increments with an index line which corresponds to measurement increments on said tape measure.

14. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the steps of:  
making a measurement mark in pencil by extending a retractable pencil lead corresponding to said measurement marks on said tape measure.

15. A method of making precise measured cuts on objects as in Claim 12 further comprising the steps of:  
including a nail hole in said tape measure at an exposed end;  
inserting a nail through said nail hole into the object; and  
rotating said case about the nail in arc to make a circular measured cut in the object.